

Thursday, February 26, 1998

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S1035–S1132

Measures Introduced: Ten bills and two resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 1681–1690 and S. Res. 184 and 185.

Page S1070

Measures Reported: Reports were made as follows:

H.R. 1534, to simplify and expedite access to the Federal courts for injured parties whose rights and privileges, secured by the United States Constitution, have been deprived by final actions of Federal agencies, or other government officials or entities acting under color of State law; to prevent Federal courts from abstaining from exercising Federal jurisdiction in actions where no State law claim is alleged; to permit certification of unsettled State law questions that are essential to resolving Federal claims arising under the Constitution; and to clarify when government action is sufficiently final to ripen certain Federal claims arising under the Constitution, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

S. Res. 181, expressing the sense of the Senate that on March 2nd, every child in America should be in the company of someone who will read to him or her.

S. 1244, to amend title 11, United States Code, to protect certain charitable contributions, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

S. 1605, to establish a matching grant program to help States, units of local government, and Indian tribes to purchase armor vests for use by law enforcement officers, with an amendment.

Pages S1068–69

Measures Passed:

Read Across America Day: Senate agreed to S. Res. 181, expressing the sense of the Senate that on March 2nd, every child in America should be in the company of someone who will read to him or her.

Page S1130

Onate Cuatrocenenario: Senate agreed to S. Res. 148, designating 1998 as the “New Mexico Cuatrocenenario”, the 400th anniversary commemoration of the first permanent Spanish settlement in New Mexico.

Pages S1130–31

Campaign Finance Reform: Senate continued consideration of S. 1663, to protect individuals from having their money involuntarily collected and used for politics by a corporation or labor organization, taking action on amendments proposed thereto, as follows:

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Pending:

McCain Amendment No. 1646, in the nature of a substitute.

Lott Amendment No. 1649, to prohibit the use of funds by the Federal Communications Commission to impose or enforce requirements with respect to electioneering communications.

Lott Amendment No. 1650 (to Amendment No. 1649), of a perfecting nature.

Lott Amendment No. 1674 (to Amendment No. 1646), to prohibit the use of funds by the Federal Communications Commission to impose or enforce requirements with respect to electioneering communications.

Lott Amendment No. 1675 (to Amendment No. 1674), of a perfecting nature.

During consideration of this measure today, Senate also took the following action:

By 52 yeas to 48 nays (Vote No. 16), three-fifths of those Senators duly chosen and sworn not having voted in the affirmative, Senate failed to close further debate on Amendment No. 1646, listed above.

Page S1045

By 45 yeas to 54 nays (Vote No. 17), three-fifths of those Senators duly chosen and sworn not having voted in the affirmative, Senate failed to close further debate on the bill.

Page S1045

Subsequently, the bill, with certain of the pending amendments, was referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

ISTEA Authorization: Senate resumed consideration of S. 1173, to authorize funds for construction of highways, for highway safety programs, and for mass transit programs, with a modified committee amendment.

Pages S1055–64

By unanimous-consent agreement, the following pending amendments and the motion to recommit were withdrawn:

Chafee/Warner Amendment No. 1312, to provide for a continuing designation of a metropolitan planning organization. **Page S1055**

Chafee/Warner Amendment No. 1313, (to language proposed to be stricken by the committee, as modified), of a perfecting nature. **Page S1055**

Chafee/Warner Amendment No. 1314 (to Amendment No. 1313), of a perfecting nature. **Page S1055**

Motion to recommit the bill to the Committee on Environment and Public Works, with instructions. **Page S1055**

Lott Amendment No. 1317 (to instructions of the motion to recommit), to authorize funds for construction of highways, for highway safety programs, and for mass transit programs. **Page S1055**

Lott Amendment No. 1318 (to Amendment No. 1317), to strike the limitation on obligations for administrative expenses. **Page S1055**

Subsequently, the modified committee amendment was further modified to reflect it as an amendment in the nature of a substitute (Amendment No. 1676), and subject to further amendments. **Pages S1055–56**

Measure Returned to Senate Calendar:

Reciprocal Trade Agreement/Fast Track: S. 1269, to establish objectives for negotiating and procedures for implementing certain trade agreements, was displaced upon the adoption of the motion to proceed to consideration of S. 1173, ISTEA Authorization, and was returned to the Senate calendar. **Page S1055**

Appointments:

National Council on the Arts: The Chair, on behalf of the Majority Leader, pursuant to Public Law 105–83, announced the appointment of Senators Sessions and Collins to serve as members of the National Council on the Arts. **Page S1130**

Nominations Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nominations:

Hiram Arthur Contreras, of Texas, to be United States Marshal for the Southern District of Texas for the term of four years.

Beverly Baldwin Martin, of Georgia, to be United States Attorney for the Middle District of Georgia for the term of four years.

Robert A. Miller, of South Dakota, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the State Justice Institute for a term expiring September 17, 2000.

Randall Dean Anderson, of Utah, to be United States Marshal for the District of Utah for the term of four years. **Pages S1131–32**

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

Edward A. Powell, Jr., of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary of Veterans Affairs (Management).

Q. Todd Dickinson, of Pennsylvania, to be Deputy Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks. **Page S1132**

Nomination Withdrawn: Senate received notification of the withdrawal of the following nomination: George Donohue, of Maryland, to be Deputy Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration, which was sent to the Senate on June 26, 1997. **Page S1132**

Messages From the House: **Page S1068**

Measures Referred: **Page S1068**

Executive Reports of Committees: **Pages S1069–70**

Statements on Introduced Bills: **Pages S1070–81**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S1081–82**

Amendments Submitted: **Pages S1082–S1125**

Notices of Hearings: **Page S1125**

Authority for Committees: **Pages S1125–26**

Additional Statements: **Pages S1126–30**

Record Votes: Two record votes were taken today. (Total–17) **Page S1045**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 10 a.m., and adjourned at 6:14 p.m., until 9:30 a.m. on Friday, February 27, 1998. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record, on Page S1132.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

APPROPRIATIONS—AGRICULTURE

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, and Related Agencies held hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1999 for the Natural Resources Conservation Service of the Department of Agriculture, receiving testimony from James R. Lyons, Under Secretary for Natural Resources and Environment, and Thomas A. Weber, Acting Chief, Natural Resources Conservation Service, both of the Department of Agriculture, who were accompanied by several of his associates.

Subcommittee will meet again on Tuesday, March 3.

APPROPRIATIONS—STATE DEPARTMENT

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, State, and Judiciary, and Related Agencies held hearings on proposed budget estimates

for fiscal year 1999 for the Department of State, receiving testimony from Madeleine K. Albright, Secretary of State.

Subcommittee will meet again on Tuesday, March 3.

APPROPRIATIONS—DEFENSE

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Defense held hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1999 for the Department of Defense, receiving testimony from John J. Hamre, Deputy Secretary of Defense.

Subcommittee will meet again on Wednesday, March 4.

APPROPRIATIONS—CAPITOL POLICE/ SECRETARY OF THE SENATE/CBO

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on the Legislative Branch held hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1999, receiving testimony in behalf of funds for their respective activities from Wilson Livingood, House Sergeant at Arms, Gregory S. Casey, Senate Sergeant at Arms, Alan M. Hantman, Architect of the Capitol, and Gary L. Abrecht, Chief of Police, all on behalf of the Capitol Police Board; Gary Sisco, Secretary of the Senate; and June E. O'Neill, Director, Congressional Budget Office.

Subcommittee will meet again on Thursday, March 12.

APPROPRIATIONS—TREASURY

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on the Treasury and General Government held hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1999 for law enforcement programs of the Department of the Treasury, receiving testimony from Raymond W. Kelly, Under Secretary for Enforcement, John W. Magaw, Director, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, Lewis C. Merletti, Director, United States Secret Service, Samuel Banks, Acting Commissioner, United States Customs Service, Ted F. Brown, Assistant Commissioner for Criminal Investigation, Internal Revenue Service, W. Ralph Basham, Director, Federal Law Enforcement Training Center, and William Baity, Deputy Director, Financial Crimes Enforcement Network, all of the Department of the Treasury.

Subcommittee will meet again on Thursday, March 5.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Armed Services: Committee ordered favorably reported 1,078 military nominations in the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, and Air Force.

EXPORT PROMOTION

Committee on the Budget: Committee's International Affairs Task Force concluded hearings to examine the success of the National Trade Strategy from the perspective of international affairs funding, after receiving testimony from David L. Aaron, Under Secretary of Commerce for International Trade; JayEtta Z. Hecker, Associate Director, International Relations and Trade Issues, National Security and International Affairs Division, General Accounting Office; and Edmund Rice, Coalition for Employment Through Exports, Inc., Washington, D.C.

GLOBAL TOBACCO SETTLEMENT

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Committee resumed hearings to examine the scope and depth of the proposed settlement between States Attorneys Generals and tobacco companies to mandate a total reformation and restructuring of how tobacco products are manufactured, marketed, and distributed in America, focusing on those provisions that would limit the liability of tobacco companies, receiving testimony from Mississippi Attorney General Mike Moore, Jackson; Kansas Attorney General Carla J. Stovall, Topeka; Colorado Attorney General Gale Norton, Denver; Stanley M. Chesley, Waite, Schneider, Bayless & Chesley Co., Cincinnati, Ohio, on behalf of the Castano Plaintiffs Litigation Committee; Eugene I. Pavalon, Chicago, Illinois, on behalf of the Association of Trial Lawyers of America; Kris W. Kobach, University of Missouri at Kansas City School of Law, Kansas City, Missouri; and Richard F. Scruggs, Scruggs, Millette, Lawson, Bozeman & Dent, Pascagoula, Mississippi.

Hearings continue on Tuesday, March 3.

FAA MODERNIZATION

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Subcommittee on Aviation concluded hearings to examine the Federal Aviation Administration's plans to replace and upgrade the National Airspace System's equipment and facilities to meet the increase in traffic volume, enhance the margin of air safety, and increase the efficiency of the air traffic control system, focusing on its problems in meeting cost, schedule, and performance goals, after receiving testimony from Jane F. Garvey, Administrator, Federal Aviation Administration, FAA; Gerald L. Dillingham, Associate Director, Transportation Issues, Resources, Community, and Economic Development Division, General Accounting Office; Margaret T. Jenny, US Airways, Arlington, Virginia; and Phil Boyer, Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association, Washington, D.C.

MEDICARE PRIVATE CONTRACTING

Committee on Finance: Committee held hearings on S. 1194, to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to clarify the right of medicare beneficiaries to enter into private contracts with physicians and other health care professionals for the provision of health services for which no payment is sought under the medicare program, receiving testimony from Senators Kyl and Durbin; Representative Cardin; Nancy-Ann Min DeParle, Administrator, Health Care Financing Administration, Department of Health and Human Services; Beatrice Braun, Spring Hill, Florida, on behalf of the American Association of Retired Persons; Kent Masterson Brown, United Seniors Association, Inc., Fairfax, Virginia; J. Edward Hill, Tupelo, Mississippi, on behalf of the American Medical Association; and William A. Reynolds, Missoula, Montana, on behalf of the American College of Physicians.

Hearings were recessed subject to call.

U.S. TRADE SANCTIONS IN ASIA

Committee on Foreign Relations: Subcommittee on East Asia and Pacific Affairs held hearings to examine whether unilateral trade sanctions are an effective tool of United States foreign policy in Asia, receiving testimony from Frank D. Kittredge, National Foreign Trade Council, Inc., Ernest H. Preeg, Center for Strategic and International Studies, Ernest Z. Bower, US-ASEAN Business Council, Inc., Arthur T. Downey, Baker Hughes, Incorporated, on behalf of the National Association of Manufacturers, and Douglas H. Paal, Asia Pacific Policy Center, all of Washington, D.C.

Hearings were recessed subject to call.

DRUG CERTIFICATION

Committee on Foreign Relations: Subcommittee on Western Hemisphere, Peace Corps, Narcotics and Terrorism held hearings to examine the effectiveness of the certification process under the Foreign Service Act used by the United States to assess how other nations cooperate in their counternarcotics efforts, receiving testimony from Thomas A. Constantine, Administrator, Drug Enforcement Administration, Department of Justice; John P. Walters, Philanthropy Roundtable, Washington, D.C.; Richard B. Craig, Kent State University, Kent, Ohio; and Rensselaer W. Lee III, Global Advisory Services, McLean, Virginia.

Hearings were recessed subject to call.

MERIT SYSTEM PROTECTION ACT

Committee on Governmental Affairs: Subcommittee on International Security, Proliferation and Federal Services concluded hearings on S. 1495, to strengthen the ability of the Office of Personnel Management to

obtain judicial review of a final order or decision of the Merit Systems Protection Board within 60 days after receiving notice thereof, after receiving testimony from Lorraine Lewis, General Counsel, Office of Personnel Management; David M. Cohen, Director, Commercial Litigation Branch of the Civil Division, Department of Justice; and Robert M. Tobias, National Treasury Employees Union, and Mark D. Roth, American Federation of Government Employees (AFL-CIO), both of Washington, D.C.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee ordered favorably reported the following business items:

The nominations of M. Margaret McKeown, of Washington, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Ninth Circuit, Thomas J. Umberg, of California, to be Deputy Director for Supply Reduction, Office of National Drug Control Policy, Randall Dean Anderson, to be United States Marshal for the District of Utah, and Robert A. Miller, of South Dakota, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the State Justice Institute;

H.R. 1534, to simplify and expedite access to the Federal courts for injured parties whose rights and privileges, secured by the United States Constitution, have been deprived by final actions of Federal agencies, or other government officials or entities acting under color of State law; to prevent Federal courts from abstaining from exercising Federal jurisdiction in actions where no State law claim is alleged; to permit certification of unsettled State law questions that are essential to resolving Federal claims arising under the Constitution; and to clarify when government action is sufficiently final to ripen certain Federal claims arising under the Constitution, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 1605, to establish a matching grant program to help States, units of local government, and Indian tribes to purchase armor vests for use by law enforcement officers, with an amendment;

S. 1244, to amend Federal bankruptcy law with respect to avoidance by the trustee in bankruptcy of fraudulent transfers and obligations to cite circumstances under which a transfer of a charitable contribution to a qualified religious or charitable unit shall not be considered to be fraudulent, and to prohibit the trustee from avoiding such charitable contributions when acting as lien creditors and successor to certain creditor and purchasers, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute; and

S. Res. 181, expressing the sense of the Senate that on March 2, every child in America should be in the company of someone who will read to him or her.

ANTITRUST OVERSIGHT

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Antitrust, Business Rights and Competition held oversight hearings to review the state of antitrust enforcement within the Antitrust Division of the Department of Justice, and proposals to improve international antitrust enforcement, including increasing criminal fines for corporate price-fixing conspiracies, receiving testimony from Joel I. Klein, Assistant Attorney General, Antitrust Division, Department of Justice.

Subcommittee will meet again on Wednesday, March 4.

MEDICAL CONFIDENTIALITY

Committee on Labor and Human Resources: Committee concluded hearings on proposed legislation to protect the confidentiality of medical information, including S. 1368, to provide individuals with access to health information of which they are the subject, ensure personal privacy with respect to personal medical records and health care-related information, impose criminal and civil penalties for unauthorized use of personal health information, and to provide for the strong enforcement of these rights, after receiving testimony from Senators Bennett and Leahy; Kathleen Sebelius, Kansas Department of Insurance, Topeka, on behalf of the National Association of Insurance Commissioners; Janlori Goldman, Georgetown University Medical Center, and Christine Brunswick,

National Breast Cancer Coalition, both of Washington, D.C.; Michael L. Rhodes, Intermountain Health Care, Salt Lake City, Utah; and Bonnie Rogers, Chapel Hill, North Carolina, on behalf of the American Association of Occupational Health Nurses.

TRIBAL PRIORITY ALLOCATIONS

Committee on Indian Affairs: Committee concluded oversight hearings to examine Tribal Priority Allocation funding as contained in the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 1999 for the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Department of the Interior, after receiving testimony from Kevin Gover, Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Indian Affairs; John Washakie, Eastern Shoshone Tribe of the Wind River Reservation, Fort Washakie, Wyoming, on behalf of the Shoshone Business Council; Andrew L. Othole, Pueblo of Zuni, Zuni, New Mexico; Edward K. Thomas, Central Council of Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska, Juneau; Bernida Churchill, Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe Indians, Onamia, Minnesota; and James T. Martin, United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc., Nashville, Tennessee.

INTELLIGENCE

Select Committee on Intelligence: Committee held closed hearings on intelligence matters, receiving testimony from officials of the intelligence community.

Committee will meet again on Wednesday, March 4.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Bills Introduced: 22 public bills, H.R. 3279–3300; 12 resolutions, H.J. Res. 111–112, H. Con. Res. 225–230, and H. Res. 370–373 were introduced.

Pages H676–78

Reports Filed: No reports were filed today.

Speaker Pro Tempore: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he designated Representative Collins to act as Speaker pro tempore for today.

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Wireless Telephone Protection Act: The House passed H.R. 2460, to amend title 18, United States Code, with respect to scanning receivers and similar devices, by a yea and nay vote of 414 yeas to 1 nay, Roll No. 25. Pursuant to the rule, the House passed S. 493, a similar Senate-passed bill, after striking all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof

the text of H.R. 2460. Agreed to amend the title; and H.R. 2460 was then laid on the table.

Pages H636–45

Agreed to the McCollum amendment in the nature of a substitute that clarifies that only devices that can insert or modify telecommunication identifying information are prohibited; includes an asset forfeiture provision; allows third parties who have a business relationship with a telecommunications carrier to possess the devices for legitimate business use; and creates an affirmative defense to prosecution for those engaged in research or development in connection with a lawful purpose.

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Earlier, agreed to H. Res. 368, the rule that provided for consideration of the bill by a voice vote.

Pages H636–37

Committee Election: The House agreed to H. Res. 370, electing Representative Velazquez to the Committee on Small Business to rank immediately above Representative LaFalce.

Page H646

Committee Election: The House agreed to H. Res. 371, electing Representative Graham to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Page H646

Late Report: The Committee on Ways and Means received permission to have until midnight on Friday, February 27 to file a report on H.R. 3130, Child Support Performance and Incentive Act of 1998.

Page H646

Legislative Program: The Majority Leader announced the legislative program for the week of March 2.

Page H646

Meeting Hour—Monday, March 2: Agreed that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 2:00 p.m. on Monday, March 2.

Page H646

Meeting Hour—Tuesday, March 3: Agreed that when the House adjourns on Monday, it adjourn to meet at 12:30 p.m. on Tuesday, March 3, for Morning-Hour Debate.

Page H647

Calendar Wednesday: Agreed that the business in order under the Calendar Wednesday rule be dispensed with on Wednesday, March 4.

Page H647

Amendments: Amendments ordered printed pursuant to the rule appear on page H647.

Quorum Calls—Votes: One yea and nay vote developed during the proceedings of the House today and appears on page H644. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: Met at 10:00 a.m. and adjourned at 3:08 p.m.

Committee Meetings

AGRICULTURAL TRADE

Committee on Agriculture: Subcommittee on Livestock, Dairy, and Poultry held a hearing to review livestock, dairy, and poultry trade between the United States, Australia, and New Zealand. Testimony was heard from Lon Hatamiya, Administrator, Foreign Agricultural Service, USDA; and public witnesses.

AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, FDA, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies held a hearing on Research, Education and Economics. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the USDA: I. Miley Gonzalez, Under Secretary, Eileen Kennedy, Acting Deputy Under Secretary and Bob Robinson,

Administrator, Cooperative State Research, all with Research, Education, and Economics; Donald Bay, Administrator, National Agricultural Statistics Service; Floyd P. Horn, Administrator, Agricultural Research Service; Susan Offutt, Administrator, Economic Research Service; and Stephen B. Dewhurst, Budget Officer.

COMMERCE, JUSTICE, STATE, AND JUDICIARY APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, State, and Judiciary held a hearing on the Attorney General and on the USIA. Testimony was heard from Janet Reno, Attorney General; and the following officials of the USIA: Joseph Duffy, Director; and David Burke, Chairman, Board of Broadcasters.

LABOR-HHS-EDUCATION APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education held a hearing on the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, and on GAO, Department of Health and Human Services oversight. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Labor: Charles N. Jeffress, Assistant Secretary, Occupational Safety and Health; J. Davitt McAteer, Assistant Secretary, Mine Safety and Health; and Richard L. Hembra, Assistant Comptroller General, Health, Education, and Human Services Division, GAO.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Military Construction continued appropriation hearings. Testimony was heard from Members of Congress and public witnesses.

NATIONAL SECURITY APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on National Security held a hearing on FY 1999 Army Budget Overview. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of the Army: Robert M. Walker, Under Secretary and Gen. Dennis J. Reimer, USA, Chief of Staff.

The Subcommittee also met in executive session to hold a hearing on FY 1999 Army Acquisition Program. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of the Army: Kenneth J. Oscar, Acting Assistant Secretary (Research, Development and Acquisition); Lt. Gen. Paul Kern, USA, Military Deputy to the Acting Secretary (Research, Development and Acquisition); and Lt. Gen. William Campbell, USA, Director, Information Systems

for Command, Control, Communications and Computers.

TREASURY-POSTAL SERVICE, GENERAL GOVERNMENT APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Treasury, Postal Service, and General Government held a hearing on the IRS. Testimony was heard from Charles O. Rossotti, Commissioner, IRS, Department of the Treasury.

VA-HUD-INDEPENDENT AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on VA, HUD and Independent Agencies held a hearing on the Court of Veterans Appeals and the Selective Service System. Testimony was heard from Frank Q. Nebeker, Chief Judge, U.S. Court of Veterans Appeals; and Gil Coronado, Director, Selective Service System.

WIRELESS PRIVACY ENHANCEMENT ACT

Committee on Commerce: Ordered reported amended H.R. 2369, Wireless Privacy Enhancement Act.

FAIRNESS FOR SMALL BUSINESS AND EMPLOYEES ACT

Committee on Education and the Workforce: Subcommittee on Employer-Employee Relations approved for full Committee action H.R. 3246, Fairness for Small Business and Employees Act of 1998.

CAMPAIGN REFORM

Committee on House Oversight: Continued hearings on Campaign Reform. Testimony was heard from Representatives Calvert, Smith of Michigan, Price of North Carolina, Slaughter, Linda Smith of Washington, Paul, Kaptur and Engel.

NARCOTICS POLICY TOWARD COLOMBIA

Committee on International Relations: Held a hearing on U.S. Narcotics Policy Toward Colombia. Testimony was heard from Henry L. Hinton, Assistant Comptroller General, National Security and International Affairs, GAO; and the following officials of the DANTI (anti-drug) Unit, Colombian National Police: Col. Leonardo Gallego, Director; and Lt. Fernando Lopez, Logistics Support Officer.

CAMBODIA—UNCERTAIN STATUS OF DEMOCRACY

Committee on International Relations: Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific held a hearing on Shattered Dream, the Uncertain State of Democracy in Cambodia. Testimony was heard from Stanley Roth, Assistant Secretary, East Asian and Pacific Affairs, Department of State; and public witnesses.

OVERSIGHT—ADMINISTRATIVE TAXATION: FCC'S UNIVERSAL SERVICE TAX

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Commercial and Administrative Law held an oversight hearing on Administrative Taxation: The FCC's Universal Service Tax. Testimony was heard from Christopher A. McLean, Deputy Administrator, Rural Utilities Service, USDA; and public witnesses.

OVERSIGHT—RELIGIOUS FREEDOM—FEDERAL PROTECTION

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on the Constitution held an oversight hearing regarding the need for federal protection of religious freedom after *Boerne v. Flores*. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Courts and Intellectual Property approved for full Committee action the following bills: H.R. 2696, amended, Vessel Hull Design Protection Act; H.R. 2294, amended, Federal Courts Improvement Act of 1997; H.R. 2281, amended, WIPO Copyright Treaties Implementation Act; and H.R. 3209, the On-line Copyright Infringement Liability Limitation Act.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION AND FAMILY HOUSING BUDGET REQUEST

Committee on National Security: Subcommittee on Military Installations & Facilities held a hearing on FY 1999 budget request for military construction and military family housing of the Department of Defense. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Defense: John B. Goodman, Deputy Under Secretary; and the following officials of the Department of the Army: Alma Moore, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary, (Installations, Logistics, and Environment); Maj. Gen. David Whaley, USA, Assistant Chief of Staff, Installations Management; Brig. Gen. James Helmly, USA, Deputy Chief, Army Reserve; and Col. Michael Squier, USA, Deputy Director, Army National Guard.

TRICARE PROGRAM STATUS

Committee on National Security: Subcommittee on Military Personnel held a hearing on the status and effectiveness of the TRICARE program. Testimony was heard from the following officials from the Department of Defense: D. Edward Martin, M.D., Acting Assistant Secretary, (Health Affairs), Col. Steve E. Phurrough, USA, Lead Agent, TRICARE Central Region 7/8; Rear Adm. Richard A. Nelson, MC, USN, Lead Agent TRICARE Region 9; Brig. Gen. Dan L. Locker, USAF, Lead Agent Region 4; and

Mr. Stephen P. Backhus, Veterans' Affairs and Military Health Care Issues, GAO; and public witnesses.

DOD MODERNIZATION

Committee on National Security: Subcommittee Military Procurement and the Subcommittee on Military Research and Development held a joint hearing on Department of Defense Modernization for FY 1999. Testimony was heard from Jacques S. Gansler, Under Secretary, Acquisition and Technology, Department of Defense.

INTERIOR DEPARTMENT— MISCELLANEOUS BUDGET REQUESTS

Committee on Resources: Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources held an oversight hearing on the Administration's FY 1999 budget request for three agencies within the Department of Interior: Office of Surface Mining, Minerals Management Service, and the Energy and Minerals programs of the Bureau of Land Management. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of the Interior: Kathy Karpan, Director, Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement; Cynthia Quarterman, Director, Minerals Management Service; and Tom Fry, Deputy Director, Bureau of Land Management.

OVERSIGHT—NOAA AND NATIONAL MARINE SERVICE BUDGET REQUEST

Committee on the Interior: Subcommittee on Fisheries Conservation, Wildlife and Oceans held an oversight hearing on the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, NOAA, and National Marine Service FY 1999 Budget request. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Interior: Don Barry, Assistant Secretary, Fish and Wildlife and Parks; and John Rogers Deputy Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

OVERSIGHT—FEE DEMONSTRATION PROGRAMS

Committee on the Interior: Subcommittee on National Parks and Public Lands held an oversight hearing on Fee Demonstration Programs-Successes and Failures. Testimony was heard from Representative Herger; John M. Berry, Assistant Secretary, Policy Management and Budget, Department of the Interior; Lyle Laverty, Regional Forester, Rocky Mountain Region, Forest Service, USDA; and public witnesses.

OVERSIGHT—TECHNOLOGY ADMINISTRATION AND NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF STANDARDS AND TECHNOLOGY BUDGET REQUESTS

Committee on Science: Subcommittee on Technology held an oversight hearing on the FY 1999 Administration Request for the Technology Administration

and the National Institute of Standards and Technology. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Commerce: Gary Bachula, Acting Under Secretary, Technology and Johnnie E. Frazier, Acting Inspector General; and Susan Kladiva, Associate Director, Energy, Resources and Science Issues, Resources, Community and Economic Development Division, GAO.

TRAVEL AGENTS—STOLEN AIRLINE TICKET STOCKS

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Subcommittee on Aviation held a hearing on Issues related to Stolen Airline Ticket Stocks from Travel Agents. Testimony was heard from Neil J. Gallagher, Deputy Assistant Director, Criminal Investigative Division, FBI, Department of Justice; and public witnesses.

ASSESSING HEALTH CARE QUALITY

Committee on Ways and Means: Subcommittee on Health held a hearing on Assessing Health Care Quality. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Health and Human Services: John Eisenberg, M.D., Administrator, Agency for Health Care Policy and Research; and Jeff Kang, M.D., Chief Medical Officer, Center for Health Plans and Providers, Health Care Financing Administration; and public witnesses.

FUTURE OF SOCIAL SECURITY

Committee on Ways and Means: Subcommittee on Social Security held a hearing on the Future of Social Security for this Generation and the Next. Testimony was heard from Kenneth S. Apfel, Commissioner, SSA; and public witnesses.

Joint Meetings

VETERANS PROGRAMS

Joint Hearing: Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs concluded joint hearings with the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs to examine the legislative recommendations of certain veteran organizations, receiving testimony from Elizabeth R. Carr, Blinded Veterans Association, Kenneth C. Huber, Paralyzed Veterans of America, Jack Berman, Jewish War Veterans, Louis C. Tebbe, Military Order of the Purple Heart, and Charles R. Jackson, Non Commissioned Officers Association of the USA, all of Washington, D.C.

NEW PUBLIC LAWS

(For last listing of Public Laws, see DAILY DIGEST, p. D100)

H.R. 2631, disapproving the cancellations transmitted by the President on October 6, 1997, regarding Public Law 105-45. Passed over the President's veto on February 25, 1998. (P.L. 105-159)

poses of access and retrieval by the public, certain information available through the Congressional Research Service web site, and to hold oversight hearings on the budget requests for the operations of the Government Printing Office, the National Gallery of Art, and the Congressional Research Service, 9:30 a.m., SR-301.

House

No Committee meetings are scheduled.

**COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR FRIDAY,
FEBRUARY 27, 1998**

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Rules and Administration, to hold hearings on S. 1578, to make available on the Internet, for pur-

Next Meeting of the SENATE

9:30 a.m., Friday, February 27

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

2 p.m., Monday, March 2

Senate Chamber

Program for Friday: After the recognition of one Senator for a speech and the transaction of any morning business (not to extend beyond 10 a.m.), Senate will resume consideration of S. 1173, ISTEPA Authorization.

House Chamber

Program for Monday: No Legislative Business.

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